

"THE HOME THAT IS HAPPIEST."

Our burdens are lightened
That many hands bear,
And pleasures are brightened
That many hearts share,
And the home that is happiest
Brightest and best,
Is where they all labor,
And where they all rest.

Where no careworn father
The brunt of work bears,
And no gray haired mother
Is burdened with cares;
Where no tired elder sister
Is helper alone.
But each one is busy
Till all work is done.

The mother has leisure
To laugh with her girls,
She shares all their secrets,
They smooth her soft curls,
And deck her with blossoms
And fondly declare
There never was a mother
So winsome and fair.

And father is jolly;
His stories and fun
Are the life of the household,
And he has not a son
Who does not think father
Knows best and is best;
And would not work double
That he might take rest.

So, helping each other
In labor and play,
In happiness ever
The years pass away;
For pleasures are brightest
That many hearts share,
And business is lightest
That many hands bear.

WHEAT CULTURE.**What is Necessary to Make Wheat Growing Successful and Renumerative.**

To the Standard.

It is very important with all farm work to do whatever is to be done thoroughly and at as near the proper time as possible, and especially is this true of wheat culture. Thorough tillage, in my opinion, is the most important factor in successful wheat culture. Of course the soil must be fertile. If it is not rich it must be made so, for nothing will thrive well on poor soil. Thorough tillage or fining the soil for all crops before planting is the only plan by which the full productive capacity of any soil can be determined, for in exactly the same proportion as clods exist are the nourishing elements of plants locked up. The roots of wheat are exceedingly delicate and cannot penetrate the hard, dry lumps of soil, but will exhaust their energy in going around and under them, through open spaces between them. These open spaces (in a dry time) are active agents in evaporating the moisture so much needed by the young plants in fortifying against an attack from either the fly or chilling blasts of winter.

In other words, wheat requires a solid but perfectly pulverized seed bed to insure prompt germination, and prevent winter killing. With thorough tillage, careful selection of seed, proper attention given the drill, harvesting in the best manner, and more than ordinary skill in marketing, will generally prove remunerative. Of course a great deal depends upon the season, but not all, a very fair crop may be secured by thorough work that in the end will prove as profitable as if crops were more abundant. It is not often that we have entire failures when proper pains are taken to do all the work well and at the proper time, while in an unfavorable season when proper care is not given, nothing will be made. Indeed I had rather take the chances with a field of ordinary fertility with thorough tillage at the proper time than the same field with slipshod tillage and a liberal application of fertilizer.

While I insist on thorough tillage I would not have it understood that I undervalue a liberal use of any good fertilizer. Indeed I do not know a single field in our county sown to wheat that I would not apply at least 100 lbs of Homestead fertilizer to the acre. If for no other purpose I would use it to hasten the maturity of the crop, which it will do from a week to ten days, thereby fortifying it against rust, which often blasts the fairest prospects in two to three days.

As to the best time for commencing the work for a wheat crop, farmers differ. There are a few farmers who are always up with their work, ready to grasp every opportunity for doing their work well, who never complain of bad luck or regret lost opportunities. Such farmers always commence work early and are generally successful. While there are many considered good ones who never commence plowing until the last bell rings or the moon changes, what is the consequence? They have hard ground to work, or wait for rain, which may not fall for days, or even weeks, if it

comes at all. If it does not come the plowing must be done, extra teams must now be employed, and the wearing of muscles, sinews, and plow points begins, and when the work is done it is not satisfactory; and the disheartened farmer spends days and sometimes weeks in making small clods of large ones. If at harvest his crop is not remunerative bad luck or the moon has all the blame to bear. I have learned from observation that the most successful wheat growers are those who commence plowing (always moving the harrow to the field with the plow ready to harrow the previous day's plowing in the morning while the dew is on, before the sun hardens the clods,) just before or about the time the green crop to be plowed under reaches its maximum succulent state. Turned under at this stage it is made available plant food for the coming crops, whereas if allowed to reach the woody state (and especially so of coarse green manure) its mechanical action will prevent that close contact of soil with the roots, so necessary to the successful growth of the plant.

S. McRAMSEY.

Viola, May 16, 1887.

Cause of Drouth and Cyclone.

From Hill's National Builder.

During a recent journey to Europe the passage across the ocean was especially unpleasant because of fogs, the only consolation in contemplating them being that they represented the work of Nature in drawing moisture from the water, which, wafted inland, fell upon the soil in refreshing rain, gathered in the brooks and rivers and flowed to the sea, to be again thus sent back to freshen and brighten the parched earth.

The speed of our vessel was materially retarded by winds from the west, a common occurrence in the summer season. The fogs and moisture through these winds are driven upon the Continent, where drouth seldom prevails, and particularly do they freshen the verdure of Ireland, and hence the brilliant green of the Emerald Isle.

In reflecting upon this subject, I contemplated the drouth then prevailing in several of the Western and Middle States of the Union. What had they to gather rain from? Alas, what have they? For a generation our farmers have been draining their lands of moisture. They have run tilling through every sough; they have drawn out the water from every swamp; they have dried up the pond; they have obliterated the beautiful little lake. In doing this they have made such easy and rapid egress for rainfall from the soil, as to endanger the homes and farm lands of all the settlers along the great rivers in the Southern regions of our country, already inflicting great distress, loss of life and property equaling in value many millions of dollars an evil which is growing in magnitude each year.

The result of this wholesale draining of the upper country of water is not only thus disastrous to life and property along the larger streams from frequent overflow, but there is such absolute drainage of moisture from the earth as to produce severe drouth, accompanied by such intense heat and dryness of atmosphere as results in the hurricane, the cyclone and innumerable village, prairie and forest fires.

In the early days when the process of evaporation of moisture went forward from the swamps, the ponds and lakes of our Western and Middle States, an extended drouth, with extremely intense heat, was comparatively rare. In those days sun-stroke was very uncommon, and the cyclone was comparatively unknown. This year we are in the second season of drouth in various portions of the country, while every year brings its devastation from wind, the result of an excessively dry and frequently disturbed condition of the atmosphere.

With the land thus denuded of natural water supply, there is but one course for our farmers to pursue to save themselves from these evils. They may drain their soil, but they should gather the rainfall in ponds and lakes scattered throughout their lands. Instead of running the drains through and out of the swamp, they should lead to an excavation of such size as circumstances will permit, which should be made at a depth of four feet, where the water can gather and will remain throughout the year, quenching the thirst of animals, giving drink to birds, reservoir in case of fire, a home for fish, a spot of beauty on which may sail the boat, an opportunity for the bath and for teaching the young people to swim. It will yield the ice for the family, provide skating for the happy youth in

winter time, and moisture, which, through evaporation, will pass into the cloud to be returned again through rainfall to the needy earth.

No fear need be entertained of stagnation from water thus held in reserve. Fish will of themselves purify it. Every rain will change it, while, if the lake covers an acre or more in area, the wind will constantly keep it pure. The writer, in proof of this, has an artificial lake on his farm, the result of dredging a swamp, which is filled only by rainfall, the water being, in the dryest season, always perfectly clear and fresh.

On the low lands the general abandonment of farms and homes from river overflow will be the inevitable outcome of this water wastage in the high grounds. Such is already the fact, while the expenditure of many millions of dollars by the government, in the construction of levees and embankments along the great rivers, will be necessary for the further protection of adjoining property. Vastly better that this expenditure be made in holding the water where it is required in the up-country.

Dot the farms of our inland States with ponds and miniature lakes, and while they will afford health, attraction and pleasure in a thousand ways will give us back the uniform rainfall we had in the early settlement of the country, when successive seasons of drouth, forest fires and cyclones were unknown.

THOS. E. HILL.

A Grateful Catarrh Sufferer.

Gentlemen—I have been a victim of catarrh for seventeen years. The misery of those years cannot be comprehensively told to those who have never been afflicted with catarrh. During those years I tried all the remedies I saw recommended for catarrh. But I got relief from none. Last year I heard of the cure of a friend who had used S. S. S., and I therefore began to take it. I commenced last fall, and continued its use until the coldest part of the winter, when I stopped. This medicine gave me the first relief I have had in seventeen years, and continued to grow better all the while I was taking the medicine, and during the cold weather when I had ceased its use. My left nostril was about closed with polypus when I began taking S. S. S. and now that is about gone, and I feel very much better than I have for years. I shall continue the medicine a few months longer, that I may entirely eradicate the disease from which I have suffered so much. My first relief came through your valuable and efficacious S. S. S.

With gratitude, I am yours truly,
W. M. FINDLY.
Newbern, Dyer Co., Tenn. Feb. 23rd 87.

Dreadful Case of Boils Cured.

Gentlemen—As far back as I can recollect I was subject to boils. They would break out every spring and off and on during the year. There are scars all over me now from virulent boils. Several years ago I took a few bottles of S. S. S., and I am now entirely free from boils and have been ever since I finished taking your valuable blood purifier, now several years ago.

Yours truly,

R. E. WALKER.
Jesup, Ga., March 17, 1887.
Bryantville, Ky., Feb. 28, 1887.
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Madame was diverting herself by propounding to a caller the venerable conundrum, "Why is a sewing-machine like a kiss?" She had just given the expected answer, "Because it seams good," when grandma's eyes twinkled, as one would not expect those of the revered relict of a reverend doctor of divinity to do, behind her shining, gold-bowed spectacles. She smiled and said gently, "One with a feller is best, isn't it?" and went on with her knitting.—Boston Beacon.

Testimonials from persons who have been cured by a medicine ought to convince those suffering from the same disease, and would, if known to be genuine. Please notice that whenever we publish any testimony in favor of Shallenberger's Antidote for Malaria, the name and address are given, and that we invite you to verify it by writing directly to the parties themselves.

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